

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 02694 230232Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4994

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2694

LAGOS FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, CU, IN, RQ, UN

SUBJ: UN COMMITTEE OF 24 (C-24) - PUERTO RICO

REFS: A. USUN 2633 (NOTAL)

B. USUN 2606 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. INDIA'S PERM REP JAIPAL AND YUGOSLAVIA'S CHARGE MUJEZINOVIC HAVE TOLD AMBASSADOR LEONARD THAT THEY CANNOT ACCEPT CUBA'S DRAFT RESOLUTION ON PUERTO RICO. JAIPAL HAS WORKED ON CONSENSUS LANGUAGE. LEONARD HAS STRESSED TO BOTH OUR DESIRE FOR A CONSENSUS STATEMENT TO CONCLUDE THE HEARINGS. END SUMMARY.

2. ON AUGUST 22 AMBASSADOR LEONARD DISCUSSED C-24 CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO WITH INDIA'S AMBASSADOR JAIPAL. LATTER FOUND OPERATIVE PARAS 2 AND 3 OF CUBAN DRAFT RESOLUTION (REF A) UNACCEPTABLE. JAIPAL SAID HE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 USUN N 02694 230232Z

HAD TOLD CUBA'S PERM REP ALARCON THAT INDIA WOULD VOTE AGAINST CUBAN DRAFT. JAIPAL HAD READ ALL THE PETITIONERS' STATEMENTS AND HAD FOUND IN THEM NO CRITICISM OF CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA IN PUERTO RICO. JAIPAL HAD FOUND CRITICISMS FOR THE MOST PART TO HAVE CONCERNED ALLEGED US FAILURE TO MEET PROMISES. JAIPAL SAID INDEPENDENCE PETITIONERS HAD TRIED TO MAKE MUCH OF FACT

THAT US DENIED PUERTO RICO TO BE C-24 BUSINESS.
JAIPAL CONSIDERED DEBATE TO HAVE BEEN A "VERY FULL ONE". JAIPAL HAD GATHERED FROM ALARCON THAT THE LATTER HAD BEEN UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE FROM SOME PUERTO RICAN ELEMENTS TO INSERT A RESOLUTION. LEONARD AGREED, SINCE INITIALLY CUBANS HAD NOT TURNED DOWN IDEA OF CONSENSUS STATEMENT (REF B).

3. JAIPAL HAD DRAWN UP AND SHOWN ALARCON THE ELEMENTS (IN FINAL PARA BELOW) FOR A CONSENSUS ON PUERTO RICO. ALARCON HAD ASKED FOR INCLUSION OF LANGUAGE CALLING ON US "TO REFRAIN" FROM ACTIONS LIMITING THE EXERCISE OF SELF-DETERMINATION IN PUERTO RICO. JAIPAL REJECTED THIS. (FYI JAIPAL HAS NOT SENT THIS CONSENSUS LANGUAGE TO NEW DELHI BUT HAS REPORTED THAT CUBAN DRAFT RESOLUTION IS UNACCEPTABLE.)

4. LEONARD STRESSED TO JAIPAL OUR VERY STRONG PREFERENCE FOR A CONSENSUS STATEMENT TO END THE HEARINGS. HE ADDED THAT YUGOSLAVIA'S CHARGE MUJEZINOVIC ALSO HAD FOUND GREAT DIFFICULTY WITH CUBAN DRAFT, PARTICULARLY OPERATIVE PARA 3, DEMANDING "IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF THE FIVE NATIONALIST PATRIOTS HELD IN US PRISONS".

5. JAIPAL SAID THAT ALARCON MAY BE RETURNING TO NEW
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PAGE 03 USUN N 02694 230232Z

YORK FROM LAGOS BEFORE END OF ANTI-APARTHEID
CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE CUBAN DRAFT RESOLUTION.
LEONARD SAID AMBASSADOR YOUNG WOULD BE DISCUSSING PUERTO RICO IN LAGOS WITH C-24 CHAIRMAN SALIM AND OTHERS.
LEONARD THANKED JAIPAL AND SAID HE WOULD KEEP IN TOUCH WITH HIM.

6. JAIPAL'S "ELEMENTS FOR A CONSENSUS ON PUERTO RICO"
FOLLOW:

"BEARING IN MIND THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF
PUERTO RICO, THE PROVISIONS OF THE UN CHARTER AND OF
RESOLUTION 1514 (XV),

"HAVING HEARD THE STATEMENTS OF THE PETITIONERS,

"TAKING NOTE OF THE REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE
RAPPORTEUR, AND OF THE LETTER DATED 16 MAY 1977 FROM
THE US MISSION TO THE UN,

"THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE REAFFIRMS THE INALIENABLE
RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO TO SELF-DETERMINATION,

INCLUDING THEIR RIGHT TO INDEPENDENCE, AND CONSIDERS
THAT ALL INTERESTED AND CONCERNED PARTIES INCLUDING THE
USA SHOULD CONTINUE TO FACILITATE THE EXERCISE OF THAT
RIGHT RESULTING IN A POLITICAL STATUS THAT IS IN ACCORD-
ANCE WITH THE PEOPLE'S FREELY EXPRESSED WISHES."
LEONARD

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